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PP RUEHPT  
DE RUEHBY #0400 1090709  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
P 180709Z APR 08  
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9417  
INFO RUEHSB/AMEMBASSY HARARE PRIORITY 0060  
RUEHSA/AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY 0459  
RUEHBN/AMCONSUL MELBOURNE PRIORITY 5181  
RUEHPT/AMCONSUL PERTH PRIORITY 3464  
RUEHDN/AMCONSUL SYDNEY PRIORITY 3372  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0622

UNCLAS CANBERRA 000400

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR IO R. WEBBER AND OES K. HOLLAND  
DEPARTMENT ALSO FOR EAP

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [SENV](#) [AORC](#) [PREL](#) [EAGR](#) [EAID](#) [ECON](#)

SUBJECT: AUSTRALIA AGREES ZIMBABWE NOT APPROPRIATE AS  
CDS-16 CHAIR

REF: STATE 40180

¶1. United Nations and Commonwealth Section, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) confirmed on April 18 that Australia had reached the same conclusions as the U.S. regarding the inappropriateness of Zimbabwe's chairmanship of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-16). They will not send representation at the Ministerial level.

¶2. The Australian delegation will not include representation from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, AusAID or the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry. There will be one First Secretary level representative from the Department of Environment, Heritage, Water and the Arts as well as a yet to be confirmed "consultant", probably a retired public servant with an environmental background.

MCCALLUM